

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 29, 1960

Dear Allen -

As my Campaign  
Manager you  
will note that  
I am in trouble.

What do I  
do now Mr Dix?

The idea of  
Senator Cooper says  
"it would not be proper"  
for me to approach him  
How does he get that?  
as ever

C O P Y

14, Lovelinch Street

LONDON, S.E. 15

21st March, 1960

Greetings, Sir,

I have been requested to furnish you with a copy of a letter from Senator Cooper about the situation. As we do not seem to know your decision, we would ask that you appease our minds by discussing the matter with him.

General Albert Wedemeyer, whom I had made a thorough research on, does not appear to fulfil all the conditions required, so despite the criticisms of limited political experience, I personally feel, as many of my friends in States, that there is a chance of your succeeding.

We shall be grateful if you could shatter any obstacle.

My best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

/s/ M. F. Conteh

Mr. Alfred Gruenther  
President, American Red Cross  
Washington 25, D.C.  
U.S.A.

C O P Y

UNITED STATES SENATE

Committee on Public Works

March 4, 1960

Miss Ann Bishop  
Arborigines Alliance Movement  
14, Lovelinch Street  
LONDON, S.E.15, England

Dear Miss Bishop:

I appreciate your recent letter concerning the possible candidacy of General Gruenther and have also discussed with Mr. White of my staff your earlier correspondence on the subject. I can well understand your interest in General Gruenther, and I know that he is one of our country's most outstanding men. I do not know that he has any political aspirations nor do I believe that it would be proper for me to approach him on this subject. I have, for some time now, been committed to the candidacy of Vice President Nixon and it is my personal conviction that he will be nominated by the Republican Party and elected to the Presidency in our general election this fall.

Again, may I thank you for your interest in writing to me.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) John Sherman Cooper

14, Lovelitch Street,

LONDON, S.E.15.

21st March, 1960.

Hello, Rev. King,

I have been instructed by the Arborigines Alliance Movement, a philanthropic organisation, to seek your support for the candidature of Mr. Alfred Gruenther, an illustrious, soldier-statesman, in the forthcoming Presidential election.

I am to state that as the American political scene is at present, 50% Democrats and 30% Republican, some dynamic Republican candidate should be chosen who may capture the remaining 20% of the Electorate and win over a few Democrats. That the concession of Senator Taft in 1953 and the stature of such potential democratic rivals like Senate Democratic Majority Leader, Lyndon Johnson of Texas, should be weighed against any Republican rivals.

Please can you communicate with Mr. Gruenther at the American Red Cross in Washington, about furthering his candidature in the American Clergy, your State and through every possible means.

We pray for your support.

Yours truly,

*Miss Ann Bishop*  
for Propaganda Secretary.

Rev. Martin Luther King,  
C/o United States Information Agency,  
1776, Pennsylvania Avenue,  
N.W. Washington, D.C.,  
U.S.A.